

# Public Input

The purpose of this section is to offer a view of the CIP from the perspective of priorities established by the Citizens' Advisory Boards (CAB) for each of the five Regional Services Center service areas and the Montgomery County Planning Board. The material in this section and related material in other referenced sections of the CIP makes it easier for citizens to focus on regional issues in the proposed CIP most relevant to their needs. This material enables citizens to locate more conveniently proposed CIP projects in their areas and to understand the coordination between projects in various functional areas of government. The preparation of this section completes several months of consulting the citizens of the various communities within Montgomery County.

The consultation process included the following steps:

- During the preparation of the recommended CIP, the Citizens' Advisory Boards sponsored citizen forums in all five of the Regional Services Center service areas: Bethesda-Chevy Chase, East County, Mid-County, Silver Spring, and Upcounty. These forums provided citizens with an opportunity to express their views on the future of the CIP in their area and to indicate their priorities for the CIP. Input from the Montgomery County Planning Board was also solicited and received.
- The Citizens' Advisory Boards presented their recommendations personally to the Chief Administrative Officer.
- Departments and agencies reviewed each recommendation.
- The County Executive considered each recommendation in making decisions on projects to be included in this recommended CIP.

The Public Input section includes the following information:

1. A map of the County by Regional Services Center service areas showing the service areas by communities and vicinities. In the CIP, most site-specific projects also include a map showing the location of the project.
2. A background description, including demographics, and other information for each of the five service areas. The Regional Services Center service areas were established by grouping together the existing 28 land use master planning areas to form contiguous areas broadly similar in growth and development characteristics and with similar capital planning issues. The City of Rockville is an independent planning area (No. 26) and is not included in any of the County service areas. Information on CIP projects, or changes in population or households, for that jurisdiction

should be obtained from the City of Rockville. The division by service area is intended mainly for the convenience of citizens in understanding capital budget issues in their areas. Established planning documents, such as the Growth Policy and master plans, will continue to be presented by policy area or planning area, as appropriate. The charts on the following pages display percentages of County population by service area from 2005 to projected 2025 and population and household data, as well as growth rates, by service area for the same period. Data was based on the *Round 7.0 Cooperative Forecast*. A newer *Round 7.1 Cooperative Forecast* is to be adopted by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

3. A description of the Citizens' Advisory Board priorities and the projects which address them follows. A description of Planning Board priorities follows at the end.
4. An index of CIP projects by planning area is contained at the back of the CIP.

## REGIONAL SERVICES CENTER SERVICE AREA DESCRIPTIONS

### ***Bethesda-Chevy Chase***

The Bethesda-Chevy Chase Service Area consists of the older, more developed areas in the southwestern part of Montgomery County, closest to the District of Columbia. It includes the communities and vicinities of Potomac-Cabin John, North Bethesda-Garrett Park, and Bethesda-Chevy Chase. The area encompasses planning areas 29, 30, and 35. Bethesda-Chevy Chase is the third largest service area in household population, containing in 2005 approximately 20.0 percent of the County's household population. From 2005 to 2015, the area is expected to grow 16.3 percent in population. The household growth rate is slower, at about 14.8 percent. From 2015 to 2025, area growth is expected of approximately 8.6 percent in population and in the number of households.

### ***East County***

The East County Service Area consists of the easternmost sections of the County closest to Prince George's County. It includes the communities and vicinities of the Patuxent Watershed, Cloverly-Norwood, Colesville-White Oak, and Fairland-Beltsville. The area encompasses a portion of planning area 15 and planning areas 28, 33, and 34. East County is the smallest service area in population size

---

(excluding Rockville), containing in 2005 approximately 10.0 percent of the County population. From 2005 to 2015, the area is expected to grow almost 2.3 percent in population. The growth in households will be faster, at about 5.1 percent. From 2015 to 2025, area growth is expected to decline by 0.3 percent in population and increase by about 1.3 percent in the number of households.

### **Mid-County**

The Mid-County Area is centered along both sides of Georgia Avenue. It covers the communities and vicinities of Gaithersburg vicinity, Upper Rock Creek, Olney, Aspen Hill, Kensington-Wheaton, and Kemp Mill-Four Corners. The area includes planning areas 23, 27, 31, and a portion of 20, 22, and 32. Mid-County is the second largest service area in population, containing approximately 22.0 percent of the County population in 2005. From 2005 to 2015, the area is expected to grow almost 4.9 percent in population. The household growth rate will be faster, at about 7.2 percent. From 2015 to 2025, area growth is expected of approximately 8.1 percent in population and about 11.0 percent in the number of households. A small portion of this area remains parkland and agricultural preserve, limiting future growth opportunities.

### **Silver Spring**

The Silver Spring Service Area includes the communities and vicinities of Kemp Mill-Four Corners, Silver Spring, and Takoma Park. This comprises a portion of planning area 32 and planning areas 36 and 37. It covers the southeastern corner of the County bordering the District of Columbia and Prince George's County. Silver Spring is the second smallest service area in population size, containing in 2005, approximately 9.0 percent of the County population. From 2005 to 2015, the area is expected to grow almost 10.0 percent in population. The growth in households will be slightly faster, at about 10.8 percent. From 2015 to 2025, area growth is expected of approximately 10.1 percent in population and about 11.5 percent in the number of households.

### **Upcounty**

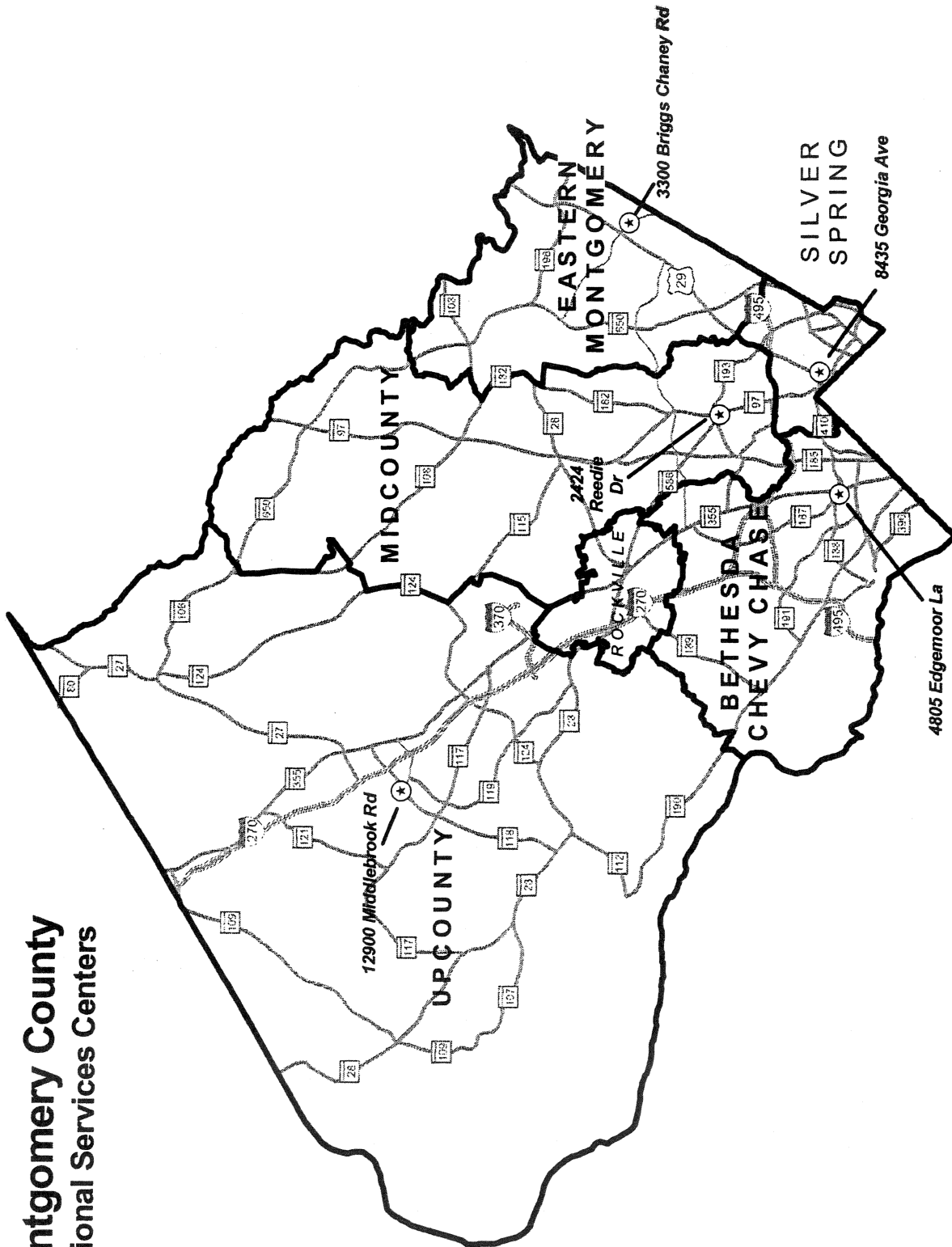
This region consists of the most rapidly growing areas of the County along the upper I-270 corridor, encompassing the largest geographical area consisting of the entire northern and western parts of Montgomery County. This area includes the communities and vicinities of Poolesville, Travilah, Darnestown, Gaithersburg, Germantown, Clarksburg, Damascus, and Cedar Grove. It includes planning areas 10 through 14, 16 through 21, 24, 25, and a portion of 15. Not only has this area experienced swift growth in the number of residents, it is also the area with the greatest concentration of new research and development, manufacturing, and commercial employment. The Upcounty area comprises approximately 33.0 percent of the entire

County population in 2005. From 2005 to 2015, the area is expected to grow almost 12.5 percent in population. The household growth rate will be faster, at about 17.0 percent. From 2015 to 2025, area growth is projected at approximately 8.1 percent in population and about 10.9 percent in the number of households.

## **COUNTYWIDE PROJECTS**

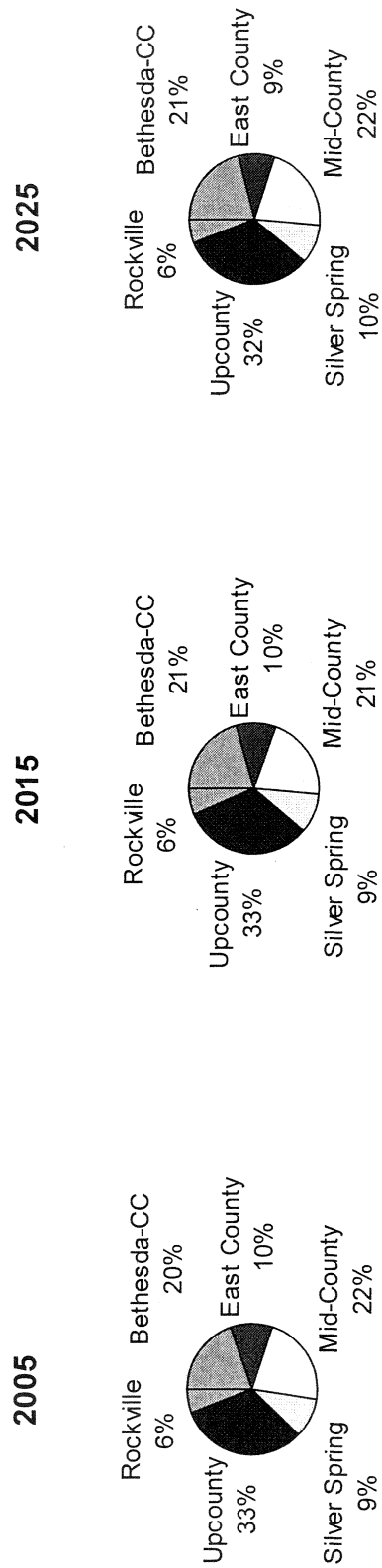
In addition to the projects discussed below, which provide improvements generally in one specific location that may be identified as belonging to one of the five service areas, numerous Countywide projects are included in the CIP and may include improvements located in one or more of the service areas. For more information on improvements included in Countywide projects, please refer to the individual project description forms.

# **Montgomery County Regional Services Centers**



Map produced by Montgomery County DIST-GIS 3/7/2002

# **MONTGOMERY COUNTY POPULATION BY SERVICE AREAS, 2005 – 2025**



Source: Montgomery County Department of Park and Planning, Research and Technology Center



## Growth and Projections by Service Area Household Population and Households, 2005, 2015, 2025

Regional Area	Household Population					Households				
	2005	Percent Change	2005-2015	Percent Change	2015	2005	Percent Change	2005-2015	Percent Change	2015
	2005	2005-2015	2015	2015-2025	2025	2005	2005-2015	2015	2015-2025	2025
Bethesda-CC	182,984	16.3%	212,888	8.6%	231,251	73,235	14.8%	84,091	8.6%	91,312
East County	96,911	2.3%	99,165	-0.3%	98,843	35,559	5.1%	37,369	1.3%	37,845
Mid-County	209,278	4.9%	219,576	8.1%	237,357	77,822	7.2%	83,396	11.0%	92,531
Silver Spring	86,620	10.0%	95,245	10.1%	104,832	34,789	10.8%	38,540	11.5%	42,975
Upcounty	297,254	12.5%	334,430	8.1%	361,471	102,983	17.0%	120,506	10.9%	133,672
Rockville	57,953	12.3%	65,096	-0.7%	64,646	22,612	15.4%	26,098	1.4%	26,465
Totals	931,000	10.2%	1,026,400	7.0%	1,098,400	347,000	12.4%	390,000	8.9%	424,800

Round 7.0 Cooperative Forecast

Source: Montgomery County Department of Park and Planning, Research and Technology Center

Bethesda-Chevy Chase includes Potomac-Cabin John, North Bethesda-Garrett Park, and Bethesda-Chevy Chase.  
Planning Areas 29, 30, and 35

East County includes Patuxent Watershed, Cloverly-Norwood, Colesville-White Oak, and Fairland-Beltsville.  
Planning Areas 15, 28, 33, and 34

Mid-County includes Gaithersburg vicinity, Upper Rock Creek, Olney and vicinity, Aspen Hill, Kensington-Wheaton, and Kemp Mill-Four Corners.  
Planning Areas 20, 22, 23, 27, 31, and 32

Silver Spring includes Kemp Mill-Four Corners, Silver Spring, and Takoma Park.  
Planning Areas 32, 36, and 37

Upcounty includes Bennett and Little Bennett Watershed, Damascus and vicinity, Little Monocacy-Dickerson-Barnesville, Clarksburg and vicinity, Goshen, Woodfield, Cedar Grove and vicinity, Patuxent Watershed, Martinsburg and vicinity, Poolesville and vicinity, Lower Seneca Basin, Germantown, Gaithersburg and vicinity, Darnestown and vicinity and Travilah and vicinity.  
Planning Areas 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, and 25

Rockville, Planning Area 26

Notes: Part of Planning Area 15 (Patuxent River Watershed) is in the Upcounty service area.  
Part of Planning Area 20 (Gaithersburg vicinity) is in the Mid-County service area.  
Part of Planning Area 22 (Upper Rock Creek) is in the Upcounty service area.  
Part of Planning Area 32 (Kemp Mills-Four Corners) is in the Mid-County service area.

---

## PLANNING AREAS AND CORRESPONDING SERVICE AREAS

<u>PLANNING AREA #</u>	<u>PLANNING AREA NAME</u>	<u>SERVICE AREA</u>
10	Bennett and Little Bennett Watershed	Upcounty
11	Damascus and vicinity	Upcounty
12	Little Monocacy-Dickerson-Barnesville	Upcounty
13	Clarksburg and vicinity	Upcounty
14	Goshen, Woodfield, Cedar Grove and vicinity	Upcounty
15	Patuxent Watershed	East County, Upcounty
16	Martinsburg and vicinity	Upcounty
17	Poolesville and vicinity	Upcounty
18	Lower Seneca Basin	Upcounty
19	Germantown	Upcounty
20	Gaithersburg vicinity	Mid-County, Upcounty
21	Gaithersburg	Upcounty
22	Upper Rock Creek	Mid-County, Upcounty
23	Olney and vicinity	Mid-County
24	Darnestown and vicinity	Upcounty
25	Travilah and vicinity	Upcounty
26	Rockville	Rockville
27	Aspen Hill	Mid-County
28	Cloverly-Norwood	East County
29	Potomac-Cabin John	Bethesda-Chevy Chase
30	North Bethesda-Garrett Park	Bethesda-Chevy Chase
31	Kensington-Wheaton	Midcounty
32	Kemp Mill-Four Corners	Midcounty, Silver Spring
33	Colesville-White Oak	East County
34	Fairland-Beltsville	East County
35	Bethesda-Chevy Chase	Bethesda-Chevy Chase
36	Silver Spring	Silver Spring
37	Takoma Park	Silver Spring

## **CAB PRIORITIES**

### **FY09-14 PRIORITIES RECOMMENDED BY CITIZENS' ADVISORY BOARDS**

## **GENERAL GOVERNMENT – Section 9**

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

#### **Provide funding for a Wayfinding study for the downtown Wheaton area (Mid-County)**

Wheaton is very fortunate to be bounded by three very busy State roads (Georgia Avenue, University Blvd, and Veirs Mill Road) and has within its boundaries a busy Metro station, transit center, and a regional mall which brings over 1 million visitors to Wheaton every year. It is also estimated that approximately 72,000 people visit downtown Wheaton on any given day. Given the number of visitors and the amount of traffic on our streets, it is very confusing to visitors not intimately familiar with downtown Wheaton to find our wonderful small businesses and restaurants and the abundant shopping available at Westfield Wheaton. We would like to see a project begun which will provide a complete wayfinding study of the downtown and then support that study with the financial resources needed to put the plan in place.

*Status: Funding for a Wayfinding study will be considered during the FY09 Operating Budget review.*

#### **Continue the Wheaton Façade Program and include reimbursement to the Wheaton Redevelopment CIP for costs associated with the relocation of Barry's Magic Shop (Mid-County)**

The Façade Program has been very successful and is putting a fresh face on many buildings in downtown Wheaton which are/were showing their age. This program has proven to be a real benefit to revitalizing our established businesses. We very much want to see this program continue and expand. Funds were used from the Wheaton Façade Program to pay for the relocation of Barry's Magic Shop. We are asking that these funds be reimbursed to this project.

Project: Wheaton Redevelopment Program

*Status: Funds paid for the relocation of Barry's Magic Shop have been reimbursed to this project. The Façade Program will continue in the FY09-14 CIP and all planned façade improvements are funded.*

#### **Provide an Arts & Entertainment Incubator Facility (Mid-County)**

Wheaton was designated an Arts & Entertainment District well over a year ago. Funds will be requested in the FY09 Operating Budget to provide for an overdue market analysis and create a marketing plan for downtown Wheaton. One aspect of the marketing plan will be to take full advantage of Wheaton's Arts & Entertainment designation and come up with a comprehensive marketing approach. Along with the proposed marketing plan, we are anxious to provide an incubator facility to allow struggling artists a place to work and grow their talents.

*Status: The County will review the integration of all County facilities in downtown Wheaton to provide a vision plan. An Arts & Entertainment Incubator facility will be part of that review.*

#### **Silver Spring Town Center (Silver Spring)**

The Advisory Board appreciates the County's commitment to building the Town Center and urges that the construction be kept on schedule so that the building can be completed as quickly as possible.

Project: Silver Spring Redevelopment Program  
Silver Spring Civic Building

*Status: Construction of a 40,000 square foot civic building and Veteran's Plaza is scheduled to begin in 2008. Veteran's Plaza contains a pavilion, ice skating rink and memorial art prepared by Toby Mendez.*

#### **Old Blair Auditorium (Silver Spring)**

The Board supports funding to allow the Old Blair auditorium to be re-opened and in use once again.

Project: Cost Sharing: MCG

*Status: The Executive will continue to appropriate funds currently programmed and consider additional funding when facility planning is complete and the required conditions specified in the Cost Sharing: MCG PDF are met.*

---

## **PUBLIC SAFETY – Section 10**

### **Public Safety Facilities and Improvements (Up-County)**

Due to the size of the Up-County, and the particular needs of our diverse suburban and rural neighborhoods, the Board has been an unwavering supporter of our Police and Fire and Rescue Departments. Most of the public safety comments from the open meeting emphasized updating communications and technology. Representatives from the departments and community expressed an urgent need for resources, which include:

- Video capability for patrol cars;
- An air support unit;
- Cameras in public facilities;
- A maintenance facility for Fire and Rescue Services;
- A tanker truck for Damascus; and
- New headquarters for Police and Fire and Rescue Departments

Project: Fire Apparatus Replacement  
Facility Planning: MCG

*Status: Police staff is working to initiate video capability for patrol cars. A pilot program should begin shortly. The Police Department is also exploring the feasibility of an air support unit and start up costs and operating costs are being identified and analysis is ongoing. Many County facilities, including the Executive Office building and most Police stations, have cameras which are monitored remotely. The County entered into a five-year lease agreement for an interim Fire and Rescue Maintenance Facility located at Southlawn Avenue. Facility Planning: MCG includes planning for a permanent facility. The Fire Apparatus Replacement project includes acquisition of a tanker truck for Damascus. The County is actively working to identify requirements and a site for a future Public Safety Headquarters facility.*

### **Renovation of the Cabin John Volunteer Fire Station #30 and Glen Echo Volunteer Fire Department Station #11 (Western County)**

As in the last two CIP cycles, we support the renovation of Cabin John Volunteer Fire Station #30 (CIP No. 450500) and Glen Echo Volunteer Fire Department Station #11 (CIP No. 450702). Both buildings should be renovated as soon as possible due to their small size, obsolete layouts, and generally inadequate conditions.

Project: Cabin John #30 Addition/Renovation  
Glen Echo Station Renovation

*Status: The Executive recommends additional design costs for the renovation of Cabin John Fire Station #30 and the Renovation of Glen Echo Fire Station #11.*

### **Improve First and Second District Police Stations (Western County)**

As we noted in 2005, the First and Second District Police Stations require an array of physical improvements in order to permit the Department of Police to meet public safety needs in our region. Both station buildings have substandard HVAC systems and inadequate space to properly address law enforcement objectives. For example, the First District lacks adequate office space for its current complement, and its Traffic Unit and Special Assignment Team are housed in an exterior trailer. Spatial limitations in the Second District are oft-reported in the press, and are well-known. Both facilities require an array of improvements, including HVAC upgrades and facility expansion, redesign and reconfiguration. The County should promptly address these needs in order to ensure that public safety objectives are achieved.

Project: 1<sup>st</sup> District Police Station  
2<sup>nd</sup> District Police Station

*Status: The Executive recommends planning and design for both the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> District Police Stations.*

### **New Fire and Rescue Station (East County)**

We support the proposed Fire-Rescue Station for the first-due response areas of Hillandale Station 12, Burtonsville Station 15, and Hillandale Station 24. We are concerned about the gap (below the county target) in response time coverage for first-responder and fire suppression services within the Calverton area and vicinity. This poses service risks for Riverwood Village, the Manors of Paint Branch and Rolling Acres neighborhoods, and the industrial and technology “parks” in the vicinity of Tech Road.

We are concerned about the increasing incident call load within East County, particularly the emergency medical services call load. The most urgent concern is the medic units at Station 12 and 15. These units are extremely busy and cannot absorb East County’s increasing advanced life support call load.

The new Fire-Rescue Station is needed in the vicinity of U.S. Route 29 and Tech Road. It would house a medic unit and engine and have the extra space for housing future apparatus and reserve units. This station project should be included in the FY09-14 CIP, with the site evaluation process for the new East County Station to be lead by the Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center director. Additionally, we support the Burtonsville Station 15

expansion, presently in the design phase, with construction to be completed by fall 2008.

Project: Facility Planning: MCG

*Status: A new East County Fire Station #37 will be considered for the Facility Planning: MCG project in the future.*

### **Third District Police Station (Silver Spring/East County)**

We support the CIP that replaces the current Silver Spring Station. The rationale is that business, residential, and transportation patterns have changed in the East County – leaving this primary facility at the far south end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Police District.

Planning funds from the Facility Planning Police Project (#479452) were already used to develop the prototype district station. We urge you to move forward with the site selection with the participation of affected communities. We support the site that has been selected, and that a site-specific PDF be developed.

Project: 3<sup>rd</sup> District Police Station

*Status: The Executive recommends design for the 3<sup>rd</sup> District Police Station.*

## **TRANSPORTATION – Section 11**

### **Corridor Cities Transitway (CCT) (Up-County)**

The Board has enthusiastically supported the Corridor Cities Transitway (CCT). We feel the CCT is an attainable goal, a fact supported by the significant amount of right of way that has already been set aside, dedicated or reserved for the CCT and its requisite stations. Key considerations with the CCT include: ensuring implementation aligns with ridership needs; minimizing transfers; tying access for pedestrians and bicyclists; and connecting with other modes of transportation, such as Metro. Those in the transportation discussion at the June forum also stressed making greater use of the MARC rail and Ride On bus services.

Project: Facility Planning: Transportation

*Status: The County Executive's recommendation for Facility Planning: Transportation includes the Clarksburg Transit Center, the New Transit Center/Park-and-Ride, and UpCounty Park-and-Ride Expansion.*

### **Sidewalks and Bike Paths (Up-County)**

A number of residents gave actual street addresses where they believed sidewalks or bike paths should be added or improved.

Project: Facility Planning: Transportation

*Status: Facility Planning: Transportation funds planning and preliminary design of new sidewalks and bikepaths throughout Montgomery County. The County Executive's recommendation for Facility Planning: Transportation includes Central Avenue Sidewalk (MD 355-MARC), MD 355 Sidewalk (Prescott Rd-MC Line), Oak Drive/MD 27 Sidewalk, and Midcounty Hwy Sidewalk/Bikeway (Woodfield Rd-Shady Grove Rd).*

### **Maintaining and Improving Roads (Western County)**

Transportation infrastructure is a necessary component of the CIP, and we generally support the stand-alone and umbrella projects currently included in the CIP. We urge you to focus not simply on new road construction, but also on maintaining and improving those that already exist. This includes accelerating improvement studies for roads (such as Arlington Road in Bethesda) where the adjacent community and traffic patterns have changed. Additionally, we note that the combination of Walter Reed Army Medical Center with the National Naval Medical Center will have a substantial transportation impact on Western Montgomery County. Responding to that impact is our highest road-related priority. We encourage you to be proactive in anticipating the infrastructure improvements that will be necessary and the challenge that will be associated with funding them.

Project: Facility Planning: Transportation  
Resurfacing: Rural/Residential  
Rural & Residential Road Rehabilitation  
Travilah Road

*Status: The County Executive's recommendation for Facility Planning: Transportation includes Arlington Road Widening (Wilson Lane-Bradley Boulevard), NIH Circulation & North Bethesda Trail Extension and Glen Echo Heights Roadway and Stormdrain. Funding is also included for Travilah Road and the intersection of Piney Meeting House Road.*

*The County Executive also recommends increased level of effort funding to provide for use of durable hot mix asphalt in the Resurfacing: Rural/Residential project as well as funding for Rural & Residential Road Rehabilitation.*

### Pedestrian Facilities/Bikeways/Trails (Western County)

Improved pedestrian and biker safety must be a priority for the County, and that priority should be reflected in the CIP. We continue to support the concepts set forth in the *Countywide Bikeways Master Plan*, and we encourage you to fund projects necessary to implement the Plan. We also urge the construction of sidewalks wherever children are required to walk or stand along heavy-traffic roads on their way to or from schools or bus stops. And we continue to support improvements to pedestrian facilities in areas that serve as essential links among residential areas, schools, cultural and recreation facilities, retail and jobs. Pedestrian safety should be among the forefront of issues considered when new developments and infrastructure projects are discussed, and the County should work with developers to ensure that appropriate pedestrian safety measures are implemented. On a related note, we urge construction of the so-called "South Entrance" to the Bethesda Metro station, which should alleviate pedestrian and vehicular traffic, and improve safety.

Based on information received from area residents, we support the various pedestrian, bikeway and trail improvements *already included in the CIP*, including (in no particular order):

- Bus Stop Improvements (CIP No. 507658)
- Greentree Road Sidewalk (CIP No. 500506)
- MacArthur Boulevard Bikeway Improvements (CIP Project No. 500718)
- Montrose Trail (CIP Project No. 038707)
- Bethesda Bikeway & Pedestrian Facilities (CIP Project No. 500119)
- Friendship Heights Pedestrian-Transit Enhancement (CIP Project No. 500322)
- Conference Center Intersection Improvements (CIP Project No. 509995)
- Facility Planning – Transportation (CIP Project No. 509337)

Projects: CIP projects referenced above

*Status: These projects remain in the CIP.*

Based on substantial resident input, we have made specific requests in prior CIP cycles for pedestrian improvements along Bradley Boulevard and Goldsboro Road, the hazards of which are self-evident at virtually any time of day. These projects remain critical priorities for County residents. Specifically:

- Bradley Boulevard. We renew our requests for construction of a sidewalk within the existing State right-of-way, along the east side of Bradley Boulevard from Seven Locks Road into Bethesda.

- Goldsboro Road. We renew our request for construction of a sidewalk/bikeway along Goldsboro Road between River Road to MacArthur Boulevard.

Finally, we encourage funding for other projects that would provide enhanced community connectivity and pedestrian/bicycle safety. These projects include:

- Seven Locks Road. We support the efforts to implement sidewalk/bikeway improvements to Seven Locks Road. These improvements are necessary to enhance pedestrian and cyclist safety along a densely populated route that serves residential areas, houses of worship, Cabin John Mall and Cabin John Regional Park.
- Tuckerman Lane. We support construction of a sidewalk/bikeway along Tuckerman Lane between Gainsborough Road and Seven Locks Road. These improvements are necessary to enhance pedestrian and cyclist safety along a densely populated route that serves residential areas, schools, Cabin John Mall and Cabin John Regional Park.
- Falls Road. We support construction of sidewalks and bikeways along Falls Road, which is an important conduit to many neighborhoods and public facilities.
- Beech Avenue. We support the construction of sidewalks on Beech Avenue and adjoining streets, which are important conduits to several schools and bus stops.

Project: Facility Planning: Transportation  
Annual Sidewalk Program  
Transportation Improvements for Schools  
Montrose Trail  
Falls Road East Side Hiker/Biker Path

*Status: Bradley Blvd is included in Facility Planning: Transportation. Goldsboro Road Bikeway (MacArthur Blvd to River Road), Seven Locks Road Sidewalk/Bikeway (Montrose-Bradley), Tuckerman Lane Sidewalk (Gainsborough Rd-Westlake Dr), Falls Rd Sidewalk-West Side (River Rd-Dunster Rd), are included in the recommended Facility Planning: Transportation program. Beech Avenue will be evaluated for future consideration under the Annual Sidewalks Program.*

*Also included within the FY09-14 Facility Planning: Transportation project is MacArthur Blvd Bike Path Sections #2&3 (Old Angler's Inn-DC Line), Jones Mill Road Bikelanes (Beech Dr-Jones Bridge Rd), NIH Circulation & North Bethesda Trail Extension, Strathmore Ave Sidewalk (Stillwater Ave-Garrett Park Line), and Tuckerman Lane Sidewalk (Gainsborough-Westlake).*

*The Falls Road East Side Hiker/Biker Path project provides funds for design and land acquisition for a hiker/biker path on the east side of Falls Road from River Road to Dunster Road.*

#### **Metropolitan Bike Trail (Silver Spring)**

We would like to make clear our support for the construction of the Metropolitan Branch bike trail (option 1).

*Status: Funding for the Metropolitan Branch bike trail is on hold until the impact of the Bi-County Transitway (Purple Line) is known and agreements with other stakeholders (MSHA, WMATA, CSX, and Maryland Historical Trust) outlining responsibilities are complete.*

#### **Silver Spring Transit Center (Silver Spring)**

The Advisory Board supports additional pedestrian- and bike-friendly improvements, including a wider sidewalk along Colesville Road.

Project: Silver Spring Transit Center  
Maryland State Highway Administration (MSHA)  
ADA Compliance: Transportation

*Status: The Silver Spring Transit Center project has completed the final design stage. This project provides for an Inter-modal Transit Center connecting the MARC, Ride On, Metrobus, Greyhound and the Metro rail line in one location. The project also allows for future incorporation of the 'Purple Line' and permanent Metropolitan Branch Trail.*

*The MSHA ADA Program provides funding for ensuring all sidewalks along State roadways (like Colesville Road) meet current ADA standards. MSHA has completed an inventory of all ADA compliance issues along State roads which includes ensuring all sidewalks are a minimum of five feet wide.*

## **CULTURE AND RECREATION – Section 14**

#### **Renovation of the Wheaton, Ross Boddy and Bauer Drive Recreation Centers (Mid-County)**

All three of these community centers are in dire need of renovation. A group of CAB members have visited all three sites. What is clear is that all three of these community centers have a historic and communal value in their neighborhoods. In order to provide proper programming and services to the communities they serve all three of these Centers require major renovation.

Project: Recreation Facility Modernization

*Status: The County Executive recommends a new Recreation Facility Modernization project to develop a comprehensive plan for recreation facility modernizations. This project will prioritize work and begin facility renovation.*

#### **Redevelop the Rafferty Center (Mid-County)**

We are extremely fortunate to be presented with the availability of the Rafferty Center. Available sites for additional recreation/entertainment opportunities are indeed very rare in the mid/down-county area. The sale and demolition of the former Good Counsel High School offers us a rare opportunity to provide much needed recreation/entertainment space for the Wheaton area. A study should be performed to determine the best use of the site. More importantly, funds need to be committed immediately in order to stabilize the Rafferty Center while the important decision on proper use of the facility is examined.

Project: Wheaton Community Recreation Center – Rafferty

*Status: The County Executive has recommended a supplemental appropriation in FY08 to fund the stabilization of the Rafferty Center and to begin design development activities.*

#### **Additional Recreation Center for the Wheaton/Kemp Mill area (Mid-County)**

The Community Center Master Plan has long called for an additional recreation center in the Kemp Mill/Wheaton area. Several years ago a site selection committee was convened. However, the committee was hard pressed to find a suitable location on which to place a new recreation center. We would like to see the site selection committee reconvene and expand the area to be searched. Location of a suitable site will put us one step closer in making this much needed recreation center a reality.

Project: Wheaton Community Recreation Center – Rafferty

*Status: The Rafferty center will provide a second Community Recreation Center in tandem with the existing Wheaton Recreation Center.*

#### **Neighborhood Recreation Centers (Western County)**

We urge you to fully fund modernization and facility improvements to the Clara Barton and Scotland Neighborhood Recreation Centers (CIP No. 508768). Both are heavily utilized focal points for their communities, yet they require renovation and reconditioning to meet resident

needs and reasonable expectations. We also encourage the County to devote funds to the acquisition of land for the North Bethesda Community Recreation Center (CIP No. 720100) if dedication of the surrounding parcels cannot be accomplished within a reasonable time. This project should not remain in limbo indefinitely.

Project: North Bethesda Community Recreation Center  
Recreation Facility Modernization

*Status: The Recreation Facility Modernization project recommends developing a comprehensive plan for recreation facility modernizations including the Clara Barton and Scotland Neighborhood Recreation Centers. This project will serve as a mechanism to prioritize work and to begin facility renovation. For North Bethesda Community Recreation Center, funding for planning and design is recommended after agreements are reached with the developer.*

#### **White Oak Recreation Center (East County)**

We are pleased that the White Oak Recreation Center project is moving forward within the original schedule. This project has entered the design development stage, involving site analysis and evaluation. Once this analysis phase is complete, a more detailed design process will begin, and the community will have input into the facility plans. We endorse all these action steps.

Project: White Oak Community Recreation Center

*Status: The County Executive recommends funding for the White Oak Community Center. The County has awarded a contract for architectural services for this project.*

#### **Community and Recreation Centers (Up-County)**

The need to build additional or renovate existing community centers and sites for after school programs and summer fun centers is a common theme voiced in the Up-County.

The conversation about recreation, parks and schools prompted comments from many residents about the Plum Gar Community Center, the North Potomac Community Center, the proposed Clarksburg/Damascus Aquatic Center, a requested BMX track and skate park at the Germantown SoccerPlex, the Germantown Town Center Park, a Darnestown Square Heritage Park, the middle school in Arora Hills, and Seneca Valley High School.

Project: Plum Gar Neighborhood Recreation Center  
North Potomac Community Recreation Center  
Facility Planning: MCG  
Darnestown Square Urban Park

Germantown Town Center Urban Park  
Trails: Natural Surface Design & Construction

*Status: The County Executive recommends planning and design of the Plum Gar Neighborhood Recreation Center as well as the construction of the North Potomac Community Recreation Center. The Facility Planning: MCG project includes the Clarksburg/Damascus Recreation & Aquatic Center. Planning, design and construction are recommended for the Darnestown Square Urban Park and the Germantown Town Center Urban Park. There are currently no plans to develop a BMX track or skatepark at South Germantown Recreational Park. Skatepark facilities are being considered at other locations, as is a mountain biking trail at Carson Farm Special Park in the Laytonsville area.*

#### **Good Hope Community Center (East County)**

We strongly support the Good Hope Community Center renovations and the opportunities for community input in the CIP. We believe that the renovations suggested by county planners (e.g., weight, and exercise room, an additional classroom, locker rooms and an expanded lobby and gym) would encourage greater use among residents.

Project: Recreation Facility Modernization

*Status: The Recreation Facility Modernization project recommends developing a comprehensive plan for recreation facility modernizations. This project will serve as a mechanism to prioritize work and to begin facility renovation. The Good Hope Neighborhood Recreation Center is included in the plan.*

#### **Renovation of the Olney and Wheaton libraries (Mid-County)**

We fully support the renovation and addition to the Olney Library and the planned renovation to the Wheaton Library. Both of these libraries are very important to the communities they serve and we urge that these projects remain on schedule.

Project: Olney Library Renovation and Addition  
Wheaton Library Renovation

*Status: The County Executive recommends the Olney Library Renovation and Addition, beginning in FY09 with completion scheduled for FY11. For the Wheaton Library, design is recommended to begin in FY09.*

#### **Public Libraries (Western County)**

We strongly support the continued dedication of CIP resources to modernize and expand the County's public



libraries – which augment the facilities provided by our public schools, and also serve as a valuable resource to our “post-graduate” community. We particularly commend to your attention the improvements scheduled for the Davis Library Renovation project (CIP No. 710703).

Project: Davis Library Renovation

*Status: The County Executive recommends design for the Davis Library beginning in FY10.*

#### **Silver Spring Library (Silver Spring)**

The Silver Spring library is the oldest library in the County, and the Board appreciates the County’s commitment to build a new, appropriate library. We urge that this important project also be kept on schedule so that it can be completed as quickly as possible.

Project: Silver Spring Library

*Status: The site has been identified and the County is in the process of acquiring the land.*

#### **Playgrounds/Ball-Fields/Trails (Western County)**

Playgrounds, ball-fields and trails are seriously neglected in Western Montgomery County. Much of our playground equipment is out-dated and unsafe, and many of our playgrounds, ball-fields and trails have been neglected to such an extreme that they no longer are capable of being fully utilized. (The ball-fields adjacent to Cold Spring Elementary School are a prime example.) We urge you to devote adequate funds to modernize and enhance our playgrounds, ball fields and trails – through renovation and replacement – in order to improve the quality of life for our families and children. It is equally important that funds be allocated for proper maintenance of these facilities once they are renovated.

We urge you to pay serious attention to the modernization of physical structures located at County parks and other recreation areas. We urge that you solicit feedback from residents as you consider recommendations of the Department of Parks’ Functional Plan for Recreation and Ancillary Buildings and determine the best utilization of these facilities.

Project: PLAR: Local

PLAR: Non-Local

Ballfield Initiatives

Trails: Hard Surface Design & Construction

Trails: Hard Surface Renovation

Trails: Natural Surface Design & Construction

*Status: Increased funding is recommended in Planned Lifecycle Asset Replacement: Local in the 6- year program and for Ballfield Initiatives in FY09. Continuation of current funding is recommended in Planned Lifecycle Asset Replacement: Non-Local, Trails: Hard Surface Design and Construction, Trails: Hard Surface Renovation, and Trails: Natural Surface Design and Construction.*

## **CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES – Section 15**

#### **Storm Water Management (Western County)**

We support the construction of new storm drains, and applaud their inclusion as an umbrella project in the CIP. Based on comments received from residents in the Glen Echo/Cabin John (MacArthur Blvd) corridor, as well as residents who use and live alongside the Capital Crescent Trail, we urge that particular attention be paid to these areas, where residents often complain of sub-standard conditions.

Project: Facility Planning: Storm Drains

Storm Drain General

Outfall Repairs

*Status: The County Executive recommends funding for Facility Planning: Storm Drains which includes candidate projects in these areas. Funding is also provided in the Storm Drains General and Outfall Repairs projects.*

#### **Watershed Restoration Projects (Western County)**

Restoration of urban streams is a high priority. We support the watershed restoration projects under design and/or being planned by the Department of Environmental Protection, as well as the stormwater management projects currently under design in Western Montgomery County.

Project: Misc. Stream Valley Improvements

SM Retrofit Countywide

*Status: One stream restoration project is under construction in Western Montgomery County. In addition, two stream restoration projects and one new stormwater management pond are programmed for design.*

#### **Protection of Land in the Agricultural Reserve (Up-County)**

The Agricultural Reserve is an economic engine, a recreation outlet and a unique source of beauty. Maintaining its integrity is vital for everyone and of

particular importance to those of us living in the northern portion of the county.

Project: Agricultural Land Preservation Easements  
Legacy Open Space

*Status: Continued funding is recommended for Agricultural Land Preservation Easements and Legacy Open Space to protect land within the Agricultural Reserve and to protect open space throughout the County.*

## **HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS – Section 16**

### **Burtonsville Revitalization (East County)**

We strongly urge to support the DHCA Capital Improvements Program (CIP) for Burtonsville revitalization.

Project: Burtonsville Community Revitalization

*Status: Design and construction money has been recommended for this project. The project will provide for cohesive community development in the Burtonsville area with primary focus on the commercial core.*

### **Continue the Wheaton Streetscape Program (Mid-County)**

As with the Façade Program, the Wheaton Streetscape Program continues to put in place a unifying look to the various parts of the downtown area. The improvements have been remarkable and again, have proven to be beneficial to our existing businesses. In addition, the new streetscaping is sending the proper message to potential developers considering investing in new projects in downtown Wheaton – “We Care.”

Project: Wheaton Redevelopment Program

*Status: The County Executive recommends funding for all planned Wheaton streetscaping and façade improvements.*

### **Pedestrian Linkages for South Silver Spring (Silver Spring)**

Improvements in pedestrian access and safety are an important part to insuring that South Silver Spring is a vibrant, livable community.

Project: South Silver Spring Pedestrian Linkages

*Status: The County Executive recommends funding for South Silver Spring Pedestrian Linkages.*

## **PUBLIC SCHOOLS – Section 21**

### **Montgomery County Public Schools (Western County)**

Excellent public schools are a hallmark of our County, and our public schools’ national reputation continues to be a primary motivating factor for young families moving into our community. In that context, we urge you to support the modernization of our public school facilities by committing to fully fund the modernization and capacity enhancement projects requested by the Board of Education.

We note that many of the public schools in Western Montgomery County are aging, overcrowded and suffering from inadequate HVAC and plumbing systems. Our schools require additional capacity to accommodate current overcrowding and projected enrollment growth, and the use of portable classrooms has proven to be logistically inadequate and questionable from a public health perspective. These problems are particularly acute in our elementary schools including, for example, at Rock Creek Forest. Among the County’s competing capital budget priorities, we believe that the facility needs of our schools must be first, because the consequence of inaction is so significant.

Project: Individual School and Countywide Projects

*Status: The Board of Education’s (BOE) Requested FY 09-14 CIP will maintain the completion dates for all individual school projects, all systemic projects, and all modernizations, with the exception of a one-year delay for Paint Branch High School. The County Executive recommends 95% of the Board of Education’s request, and expects the BOE to prioritize its projects within that allocation. Continued reductions in the number of portable classrooms is expected.*

### **General School Facilities (East County)**

We support the school system’s long-range Capital Improvement Program, including the capital projects for the 16,800 students currently enrolled in the Northeast Consortium schools. We are pleased that Cloverly and Stonegate elementary school gyms will be completed by August, 2008; that the modernization of Key Middle School and Galway Elementary School will be completed in 2009; and that Paint Branch High School’s modernization, now in the design stage, is moving forward.

Project: Capacity and Countywide Projects  
School Gyms  
Current Replacements/Modernizations

*Status: The Board of Education's (BOE) Requested FY 09-14 CIP maintains the completion dates for all individual school projects, all systemic projects, and all modernizations, with the exception of a one-year delay for Paint Branch High School. The County Executive recommends 95% of the Board of Education's request, and expects the BOE to prioritize its projects within that allocation. Continued reductions in the number of portable classrooms is expected.*

#### **Portable Classrooms (East County)**

We continue to be concerned about the number of portable classrooms in East County and the projections that elementary school enrollment will exceed building capacity each year, now through the out-year 2021. This signals a constant need for portable classrooms. While portable classrooms are a good short-term solution to overcrowding, they should not be a permanent solution. Instead, we strongly recommended the building additions now only under consideration in the 2007-2012 CIP for Fairland, Jackson Road, and Sherwood elementary schools.

Project: Classroom Addition Projects

*Status: The Board of Education's (BOE) Requested FY 09-14 CIP maintains the completion dates for all individual school projects, all systemic projects, and all modernizations, with the exception of a one-year delay for Paint Branch High School. The County Executive recommends 95% of the Board of Education's request, and expects the BOE to prioritize its projects within that allocation. The BOE's request includes funding for nine elementary school addition projects (including Fairland, Jackson Road, and Sherwood elementary schools), as well as funding to reopen a new elementary school in the Downcounty Consortium. These capacity projects will allow MCPS to reduce the relocatable classroom inventory significantly.*

#### **Farquhar Middle School (East County)**

We endorse maintaining Farquhar Middle School's position in the modernization schedule. While the school's PTA is interested in accelerating their position in the timetable, this would not be practicable under school board policy. Rather, we urge that the Farquhar CIP not slip if the budget becomes tight. To that end, we urge your collaboration with our delegation in seeking the State funding needed for the school system's capital projects.

Project: Current Replacements/Modernizations

*Status: The Board of Education's Requested FY09-14 CIP maintains the completion dates for all modernization projects, with the exception of a one-year delay for Paint Branch High School. The County Executive recommends 95% of the Board of Education's request, and expects the BOE to prioritize its projects within that allocation.*

### **FY09-14 PRIORITIES RECOMMENDED BY MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING BOARD**

The Planning Board has identified new FY09-14 Countywide initiatives. These initiatives include general topics that apply to several geographic areas. The priorities identified in this set of recommendations emphasize community facilities, pedestrian connections and streetscaping, environmental quality and energy conservation, Silver Spring CBD traffic improvements, green corridors policy, Needwood Road bike path, facility planning transportation projects, and transportation demand management. Additional specific project priorities have been arranged by seven geographic areas.

#### **General Countywide Area**

##### **Community Facilities**

Community Facilities includes community and recreation centers, other recreational venues, libraries, police stations, and the county service park. The improvement of existing community centers to serve the recreation needs of several communities should receive high priority. A general fund is needed for facility planning for these community centers. This would be used to identify sites, establish joint development options identify and estimate costs, and set priorities for the next series of community centers to be funded by Montgomery County. CIP funds are needed to plan, design, and construct needed public facilities such as libraries, service centers, other recreational opportunities and police stations in the county. These public facilities contribute to the high quality of life that Montgomery County offers residents. Funding by Montgomery County for a library, police station, and the county service park should also receive high priority. Priority projects include the following:

- Gymnasium addition to the Takoma Park Community Center
- Friendship Heights Community Center – Operational funds and limited CIP funds are needed
- North Bethesda Community Center – Facility planning and construction funds are needed
- Relocation of existing Shady Grove County Service Park – Facility planning is needed to implement master plan recommendations.

- Design and Construction of the Clarksburg Library
- North County Police Station in Clarksburg – Facility planning and construction funds are needed.
- Clarksburg Recreation Center – Site selection, planning, design and construction funds are required
- Plumgar Recreation Center
- East Germantown Recreation Center
- North Potomac Community Center
- Scotland Neighborhood Community Center
- Wheaton Community Center

**Projects: Recreation Facility Modernization**

Wisconsin Place Center  
 North Bethesda Community Recreation Center  
 Facility Planning: MCG, (Clarksburg/Damascus Community Recreation & Aquatic Center)  
 Plum Gar Neighborhood Recreation Center  
 Facility Planning: MCG, (Comprehensive Recreation Facilities and Services Development Plan, 2010-2030)  
 North Potomac Community Recreation Center

**Status:**

- *The County Executive recommends the Recreation Facility Modernization project to develop a comprehensive plan for recreation facility modernization. The Takoma Park Community Center is owned by the City. The County Executive will consider formal requests for County support of this project as part of development of the FY09 Operating Budget.*
- *The Wisconsin Place Center Friendship Heights is scheduled to commence operations in FY09.*
- *The planning and design for the North Bethesda Community Recreation Center continues and is dependent on reaching agreement with the developer.*
- *The County Executive has initiated a comprehensive Property Use study. Options for Shady Grove Sector Plan Staging will be considered along with this study.*
- *Construction is scheduled to begin on the Clarksburg Library in FY10.*
- *A satellite Police facility is included in plans for the Clarksburg Fire Station. Construction is scheduled for FY10.*
- *The Facility Planning: MCG project includes planning for a Clarksburg Damascus Community Recreation and Aquatic Center.*
- *The Executive's recommendation includes planning and design for renovation of the Plum Gar Neighborhood Recreation Center.*
- *The East Germantown Recreation Center is not included in the Recommended CIP.*
- *Planning, design and construction for the North Potomac Community Center is included and requires pending land acquisition.*

- *The Scotland Neighborhood Community Center is included in the Recreation Facility Modernization project.*
- *The County Executive has recommended a supplemental appropriation in FY08 to fund the stabilization of the Rafferty Center and to begin design development. The Center will provide a second community recreation center in tandem with the existing Wheaton Recreation Center.*

**Pedestrian Connections and Streetscaping**

New construction in several communities throughout the county have created gaps in the existing sidewalk network. A program to complete the sidewalk gaps is requested as it will create new pedestrian connections and link previously isolated subdivisions (both residential and commercial) to each other. Streetscaping measures for these sidewalks should also be part of this program. The following list of pedestrian connections and associated streetscaping will complete the missing sidewalks in several communities.

- Burtonsville Streetscape improvements US 29 and MD 198
- MD 108 Sidewalk Gap Program
- MD 118 Sidewalk Gap Program from Kingsview Village subdivision south to Germantown Park and from the West Germantown Fire Station to existing sidewalk at Kingsview Village.
- MD Route 355 - Sidewalk extension from West Old Baltimore Road to pedestrian crossing to Ridge Road Recreation Park

**Project: Burtonsville Community Revitalization  
 MD 108 Sidewalk  
 Annual Sidewalk Program**

*Status: Work in the vicinity of US 29 and MD 198 includes the State's project to improve the intersection; and Montgomery County's Burtonsville Access Road to improve access to shopping areas and Burtonsville Commercial Revitalization to improve the visual appearance of the commercial center.*

*The County has completed final design of the MD 108 Sidewalk. Construction of the portion in front of Sherwood High School is complete. The portion from Needwood Road to the entrance of the High School, excluding the developer portion, will be constructed in FY09.*

*The Annual Sidewalk Program funds the construction of new sidewalks throughout Montgomery County. The MD 118 and MD 355 projects are on the list of projects for future consideration under the Annual Sidewalks Program.*

---

### **Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation**

Ensuring and maintaining the County's high standards for environmental quality remains at the forefront of new priority projects. The countywide priorities cited in this memorandum will establish the County as a major center in the global, knowledge based economy. All proposed projects should employ methods which conserve energy and meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards for design and construction.

*Status: Maintaining the County's high standards for environmental quality and ensuring that proposed projects employ methods that meet LEED standards are important considerations for the County Executive.*

### **Silver Spring CBD Traffic Improvements**

Many of the planned pedestrian improvements were implemented before this project closed out a couple of years ago, but a number of items still need to be pursued. Constructing intersection neckdowns would be beneficial in improving pedestrian safety by reducing pedestrians' exposure to traffic, similar to what was recently done along Norfolk Avenue in Bethesda. Staff believes that a greater safety benefit would be gained by implementing such improvements on the side streets along Georgia Avenue and Fenwick Lane and Fidler Lane, for example, where there is a full-time on-street parking that could be sheltered by bumping out the curb at the intersection. Also, raised planting beds or other barriers in medians and along selected segments of sidewalk would be effective in deterring unsafe mid-block crossings of major roads. The raised median on Georgia Avenue at the Discovery headquarters has been very effective in this regard.

Traffic signal timings, including advance WALK signals and longer crossing times, should be evaluated to determine where better pedestrian accommodation should be provided to reflect the larger increase in pedestrian traffic in Silver Spring over the last few years.

Project: Facility Planning: Transportation  
Pedestrian Safety Program

*Status: Recommendations will be considered for the Facility Planning: Transportation Program in the future. The Pedestrian Safety Program provides for the review and analysis of existing physical structures and traffic controls to improve safety and the walking environment for pedestrians.*

### **Green Corridors Policy**

The Aspen Hill and Kensington-Wheaton Master Plans call for street trees to be planted along major roadways to benefit the environment and aesthetics, and to make areas

more pedestrian-friendly. Staff's observation is that the County has been more vigilant lately about removing trees that are in failing health. A similar effort should be initiated to replace those trees and plant additional trees along major highways and arterials in the urban and suburban parts of the county.

Projects: Street Tree Preservation

*Status: The County's approach to street trees continues to include removal of dead or unhealthy street trees, reforestation, and efforts to achieve a pruning program which will protect the health of street trees.*

### **Needwood Road Bike Path, from ICC to Beach Drive/Rock Creek Park**

Facility planning for the rest of the ICC Bike Path is recommended in the Facility Planning Transportation Projects, but the construction of this segment of the path along Needwood Road needs to be advanced. This will ensure that safe connection is available from area pedestrian and bicyclist facilities, to the trail to be constructed, as part of the ICC project that terminates at Needwood Road.

*Status: A bike path along Needwood Road will be considered in the Facility Planning: Transportation project in the future.*

### **Additional Transportation Priorities**

We recommended these additional transportation items:

- Supplemental funding for the Silver Spring CBD Transit Center
- Additional Park and Ride for Germantown Transit Center

Projects: Silver Spring Transit Center  
Facility Planning: Transportation  
Division of Transit Services Operating Budget

*Status: The need for a supplemental appropriation for the Silver Spring Transit Center will be assessed once bids are received. The County Executive continues to pursue additional leased park and ride spaces for the Germantown Transit Center through the operating budget and the search for permanent solution of identifying and acquiring more parking spaces is included in the Facility*

*Planning: Transportation project recommended by the County Executive.*

### **Facility Planning Transportation Projects**

In its CIP comments two years ago, the Planning Board recommended that DPWT consider two additional criteria: Potential Master Plan Improvements and Potential Enhancement Funding Projects. DPWT staff have said they do not want to do facility planning projects that are not in Master Plans since they may not result in projects, adversely affecting their Staffing. Therefore, staff does not recommend that we pursue this. We recommend that the following candidates be added to the Facility Planning Program:

- Urban Areas Streetlighting Analysis
- Urban Areas Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements
- Shady Grove Sector Plan Staging
- Stringtown Road, East of Frederick Road (MD355)
- Equipment Maintenance Operations Center (EMOC) Facility Relocation Access Improvements
- Gude Drive
- Newcut Road, from Ridge Road (MD 27) to Comsat Drive
- US29, from Industrial Parkway to New Hampshire Avenue (MD650)
- ICC Bike Path
- North Bethesda Trail Extension
- Muncaster Mill Road (from Meadowside Lane to Emory Lane) and Emory Lane (from Muncaster Mill Road to Holly Lane) Bikeways
- US29 Bikeway, from New Hampshire Avenue to Blackburn Road
- US29 Bikeway (from Lockwood Drive to Southwood Drive) and Lockwood Drive Bikeway (from New Hampshire Avenue (MD650) to Columbia Pike)
- East West Highway Sidewalk from Chevy Chase Crest Condominium to Washington Avenue
- East West Highway Bridge over Rock Creek
- Travilah Road Bike Path from Dufief Mill Road to River Road
- Jones Mill Road bike safety improvements/shoulders
- Silgo Creek Trail Study of Arcola Avenue Crossings

Project: Facility Planning: Transportation  
Annual Bikeway Program

*Status: The Facility Planning: Transportation project includes Gude Drive, the North Bethesda Trail Extension (NIH Circulation & North Bethesda Trail Extension), and Jones Mill Road Bikelanes.*

*The following projects will be considered for inclusion in the Facility Planning: Transportation project in the future: Urban Areas Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements, Newcut Road, US29 from Industrial Parkway to MD260, the ICC Bike Path, US29 Bikeway from New Hampshire Avenue to Blackburn Road, US29 Bikeway from Lockwood Drive to Southwood Drive, Lockwood Drive Bikeway, East West Highway Sidewalk, and the Travilah Road Bike Path.*

*Urban Areas Streetlighting Analysis will be considered for the future in the Town Center/CBD Streetlight Enhancement project.*

*The County Executive has initiated a comprehensive Property Use study. Options for Shady Grove Sector Plan Staging will be considered along with this study.*

*The Stringtown Road section will be constructed under permit by the developers.*

*The Equipment Maintenance Operations Center (EMOC) Facility Relocation Access Improvements study is pending a final decision on the future of the Shady Grove County Services Park and will be considered as part of a comprehensive Property Use study.*

*The Annual Bikeways Program includes the Muncaster Mill Road and Emory Lane Bikeways projects.*

*The US29 Sidewalk West project which includes the section from Lockwood Drive to Southwood Avenue, is in the preliminary design stage. The section of Lockwood Drive from MD650 to Columbia Pike, will be considered in the Facility Planning: Transportation project in the future.*

*The East West Highway Bridge over Rock Creek is in the MSHA bridge inventory.*

*The Sligo Creek Trail Study of Arcola Avenue Crossings is being reviewed for a trail crosswalk study/recommendation.*

### **Congested Intersections**

Last year, the County Council reversed its policy of not funding projects on State highways. The County will now participate in the funding of projects on State highways so that the most congested locations can be addressed regardless of who is maintaining the roads, and to use these funds to attract additional State funds to projects that would otherwise remain unfunded. This new direction and the County's joint letter on CTP priorities have been considered in staff's recommendations.

Staff recommends that improvements be made to the following congested intersections:

- Connecticut Avenue (MD185) at Jones Bridge Road
- Norbeck Road (MD 28) at Bauer Drive
- Columbia Pike (US29) at Southwood Avenue – The developer of the Burnt Mills Shopping Center is required to make some changes to the striping at this intersection as part of his development approval. But our staff believes that greater improvements would be more effective in relieving the current traffic congestion. The developer is also required to provide two bus shelters and two real time information signs. One shelter has been provided, but the developer is willing to provide a cash payment to fulfill his remaining obligation. These funds could be used to partially fund the needed intersection improvements but additional County funds would be needed.

Project: US 29 Sidewalks  
US 29 Sidewalks West side

*Status: The Connecticut Avenue intersection and the Norbeck Road intersection will be considered in Facility Planning: Transportation in the future. The US 29 Sidewalks projects will address congestion issues. The east sidewalk construction project has been advertised for bid and bids have been received. The west side is in preliminary design.*

State Transportation Participation: Prior to consideration of these locations for funding in the State Transportation Participation CIP, they need to be included in the annual joint Executive and Council priority letter.

#### **Transportation Management**

A general fund for Transportation Demand Management continues to be needed to address traffic concerns in the major employment centers. Funds for transportation management are included in the operating budget. Transportation Demand Management is mentioned because it should be coordinated with the funds for roads, transit facilities, pedestrian connections and bicycle safety improvements which are also included in the CIP. Providing an option to the single occupant vehicle is the primary goal of Transportation Demand Management.

*Status: The County Executive is considering alternative options for providing bus stop information.*

#### **SILVER SPRING/TAKOMA PARK AREA**

#### **Gymnasium Addition to Takoma Park Community Center**

The existing recreation center is not centrally located and the condition of the existing building is deteriorating and inadequate to serve the community's needs. Funds are needed for facility planning and construction of this gymnasium which would provide recreational activities to the Takoma Park population in a more centrally located structure.

Project: Recreation Facility Modernization

*Status: The Takoma Park Community Center is owned by the City. The County Executive will consider formal requests for County support of this project as part of development of the FY09 Operating Budget*

#### **Silver Spring Arts Incubator**

An arts incubator will offer needed affordable start-up space for local artists and will enhance the Silver Spring Arts and Entertainment District. Funds are needed for site selection and acquisition, design and construction of this facility.

*Status: This project is not included in the CIP but may be considered in the future following an evaluation by the Arts and Humanities Council.*

#### **BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE/NORTH BETHESDA AREA**

#### **Friendship Heights Community Center**

The private developer for Wisconsin Place will construct a community center for Montgomery County. Funds are needed to complete the interior furnishings. Funds will also be needed for the future operation and maintenance of the community center.

*Status: Wisconsin Place Center, is a Neighborhood Recreation Center built as a developer project. The County Executive will consider support for this project as part of development of the FY09 Operating Budget.*

#### **North Bethesda Community Center**

The private developer for Rock Spring Park will dedicate a site for the future recreation center. Funds for facility planning and construction are needed for this project.

Project: North Bethesda Community Recreation Center



---

*Status: The County Executive recommends funds for planning and design. Negotiations with the developer continue.*

## I-270 CORRIDOR AREA

### **Clarksburg Recreation Center**

Funds are needed for site selection, planning, design and construction funds.

Project: Facility Planning: MCG

*Status: A Clarksburg/Damascus Community Recreation & Aquatic Center is recommended to be included in the Facility Planning: MCG Project.*

### **Clarksburg Library**

Funds are needed for design and construction of a library in close proximity to other public facilities in the Town Center as well as to retail and office areas.

Project: Clarksburg Library

*Status: The County Executive recommends funds for planning, design, and construction for the Clarksburg Library.*

### **County Service Park Relocation**

Facility planning funds are needed to implement the task force recommendations of the relocated Shady Grove County Service Park.

*Status: The County Executive has initiated a comprehensive Property Use study. Options for the Shady Grove County Service Park will be considered along with this study.*

### **Germantown Library Tot Lot**

Facility planning and construction funding is needed for the tot lot on county property.

*Status: The tot lot is not included in the current recommendation but may be considered in the future.*

### **North County Police Station in Clarksburg**

CIP funds are needed for site selection, design and construction of this project.

Project: Clarksburg Fire Station

*Status: A satellite Police facility is included in plans for the Clarksburg Fire Station. Construction is scheduled for FY10.*

### **Plum Gar Recreation Center**

The existing recreation center is substandard and inadequate to serve the community's needs. Funds are needed to expand and renovate this facility to provide recreation and community activities to this diverse population which it serves.

Project: Plum Gar Neighborhood Recreation Center

*Status: The County Executive recommends planning and design for the renovation of the Plum Gar Neighborhood Recreation Center.*

### **Sidewalk Improvements along MD 118 and MD 355**

The program is designed to be focused at "filling the missing sidewalk connections" along portions of MD 118 and MD 355. The following are the targeted missing sidewalk connections which will link residents to community parks and services.

- Sidewalk completion from Kingsview Village subdivision to south Germantown Park
- Sidewalk extension from West Old Baltimore Road to pedestrian crossing to Ridge Road Recreation Park
- Sidewalk from West Germantown Fire Station to current sidewalk at Kingsview Village

Project: Annual Sidewalk Program  
Facility Planning: Transportation  
MSHA Retrofit Sidewalk Program

*Status: The Kingsview Village connection and the sidewalk from the West Germantown Fire Station will be considered for the Facility Planning: Transportation project in the future.*

*The Facility Planning: Transportation program includes the Oak Drive/MD 27 (Ridge Road) Sidewalk recommended to begin in FY09-10.*

*The Annual Sidewalk Program funds the construction of new sidewalks throughout Montgomery County. Requests originate from private citizens, homeowners associations and various government organizations. The requests are evaluated and prioritized on their ability to display a public use and need. A specific criteria used to evaluate these requests is whether or not the requested sidewalk will provide a missing link to other networks of sidewalks. Montgomery County DPWT works with the State under the MSHA Retrofit program to provide a 50/50 cost share for*



the construction of sidewalks along State maintained roadways and will evaluate construction of the above missing sections under these programs.

## POTOMAC SUBREGION

### North Potomac Community Center

This project provides for the design and construction of a 33,000 square foot community center and a site of approximately 17 acres on Travilah Road, adjacent to Big Pines Local Park. This project is a priority for North Potomac, as the center is projected to serve a population of over 30,000 citizens and the area has no existing community center. The project includes a Senior Center, and the need was identified in both the 1998 Park, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan and the 2002 Potomac Subregion Master Plan.

Project: North Potomac Community Recreation Center

*Status: North Potomac Community Recreation Center is recommended and land acquisition is underway.*

### Scotland Neighborhood Community Center

The focal point of the Scotland community is a neighborhood community center that is undersized and inadequate to handle the diverse social and recreational needs of the residents. The site is constricted and the available space in the center is approximately half that for a typical elementary school gymnasium. Expansion and renovation or demolition and replacement will be necessary to facilitate athletic and recreation activities for the youth population of Scotland. The need for facility planning for this center was identified in the 2002 Potomac Subregion Master Plan and should be considered a priority.

Project: Recreation Facility Modernization

*Status: The Executive recommends a new Recreation Facility Modernization project to develop a comprehensive plan for recreation facility modernizations and includes the Scotland Neighborhood Recreation Center. This project will serve as a mechanism to prioritize work and to begin facility renovation.*

## GEORGIA AVENUE AREA

### Wheaton Community Center

The Wheaton Community Center is another public facility that needs improvement. A major renovation of this

facility is needed. Funds are needed for facility planning including site selection, site acquisition, design and construction. This center will provide needed recreational services to the population of Wheaton.

Project: Wheaton Community Recreation Center – Rafferty

*Status: The County Executive has recommended a supplemental appropriation in FY08 to fund the stabilization of the Rafferty Center and to begin design development activities. The Rafferty center will provide a second Community Recreation Center in tandem with the existing Wheaton Recreation Center.*

## EASTERN COUNTY AREA

### Burtonsville Regional Stormwater Management

Funds for facility planning and construction are needed for a regional stormwater management facility in the northwest quadrant of MD 198 and US 29. The facility would serve the existing elementary school, the rear access road and existing uncontrolled development. This facility could also function as a landscape focal area that should better define a center for Burtonsville and would be in close proximity to the rear access road and the elementary school.

*Status: A preliminary feasibility analysis was conducted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as part of the Patuxent River Reconnaissance Study (July 1996). The analysis determined that the site was not well suited for a regional pond and that any regional pond at this location should be evaluated as part of any redevelopment of the Burtonsville Shopping Center during the Stormwater Management Concept review. Any regional pond constructed on this site would also have forest impacts.*

### Burtonsville Streetscape Improvements US 29 and MD 198

Streetscape improvements are needed along MD 198 and Old US 29. This project needs to be coordinated with the State Highway Administration (SHA) and DPWT. Improved pedestrian access between the residential and commercial areas would further help define the Burtonsville area as a place.

Project: Burtonsville Community Revitalization

*Status: Work in the vicinity of US 29 and MD 198 includes the State's project to improve the intersection; and Montgomery County's Burtonsville Access Road to improve access to shopping areas and Burtonsville Commercial Revitalization to improve the visual appearance of the commercial center.*

---

### **MD 108 Sidewalk Gap Program**

New residential and commercial development along MD 108 between Sandy Spring and Ashton has resulted in more sidewalks, but there are gaps in the sidewalk network. A program identifying gaps in the existing sidewalk network is needed. This program should be coordinated with SHA and would provide continuous pedestrian access between the village centers, the high school, museum, and other local facilities and services.

Project: MD 108 Sidewalk  
Annual Sidewalk Program  
MSHA Retrofit Sidewalk Program

*Status: The County has completed final design of the MD 108 Sidewalk. Construction of the portion in front of Sherwood High School is complete. The portion from Needwood Road to the entrance of the High School, excluding the developer portion, will be constructed in FY09.*